

# Major spotlight on Mechanical engineering technologies

By **MARIN ALICE**  
ASSISTANT EDITOR  
MAB5338@PSU.EDU

Program Chair of the Mechanical Engineering Technologies program at Penn State Harrisburg, Mike Dideban, tells his students that if you spend two years studying, you have the rest of your life to have fun.

"In order to get a good future, you have to pay a price" said Dideban.

Students in the MET major must complete 128 credits, including higher level math, physics and chemistry. Students must also complete a series of MET classes

where they will learn skills used in their career. Dideban states that many of the courses are hard, and students will encounter subject matter they have never seen before. Some MET classes are thermal engineering, engineering fluid mechanics and heat transfer.

Once completing a MET degree from PSH students may enter a variety of fields. According to Dideban, students have found jobs as field engineers, sales engineers, power plants and with local and federal governments.

Terry Casey graduated with a MET degree in 1983 and is now the vice president of mechanical

electrical plumbing systems (MEP) at Quandel Group. His daily job includes helping clients decide what choices to make that will be energy and cost efficient.

"One of the key points with engineering is that while journalism majors say everything is built on words, everything that becomes something is engineered. We have a very important part of function of society" said Casey.

The MET faculty is always in touch with the trends in the industry said Casey.

Casey's advice to current MET students is to understand the work that you will undertake. Students will study more than

their peers and will encounter hard classes.

"You have to love it, and love is a choice" said Casey.

After completing a MET degree, it is recommended for engineering students to take the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. This exam will earn students legitimacy in the field in addition to a better job. If a student wishes, they may also take the Professional Engineering exam.

Jack Himes, a 2004 graduate of the MEPC program took his Professional Engineering exam later in life in order to peruse a different career. Himes recommended taking the prep

courses offered by PSH before taking the exam.

Himes is now a Recycling Technical Specialist at Penn State Harrisburg. His job entails providing technical assistance to companies using recycled materials to make new products; such as turning old milk jugs into plastic lumber.

Himes advises students to visit companies, or even intern if possible. Seminars on campus are also a good way to get a better feel for the job said Himes. Himes also recommends keeping up with recent trends in the field throughout a career.

## FASHION: Complimenting your figure and keeping warm

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create a balance with the slimming leggings. If you select a chunky or mid-sized belt, you give off the illusion of an hour-glass physique, highlighting a petite waist. (Keep this in mind when searching for a coat!)

Finally, in order to complete the entire ensemble, find a pair of warm knee high/mid calf boots! Scope out Burlington Coat Factory (a personal favorite), Marshalls, and even Payless for

stylish options that will agree with your feet and your wallet! Just be sure to pay attention to the type of material and elasticity used in the boots; some are heavily durable and others should be worn only on special occasion to avoid excessive wear. Also, steer clear of suede unless you plan on wearing them indoors in order to maintain their condition. As a slew of shoes continue to hit shelves, don't be afraid to branch out and try something new.

During this season, Uggs tend to be the popular choice, however;

Crocs recently unleashed their newest boot "Nadia" that is ergonomically designed for comfort and for those who want a walk on the wild side.

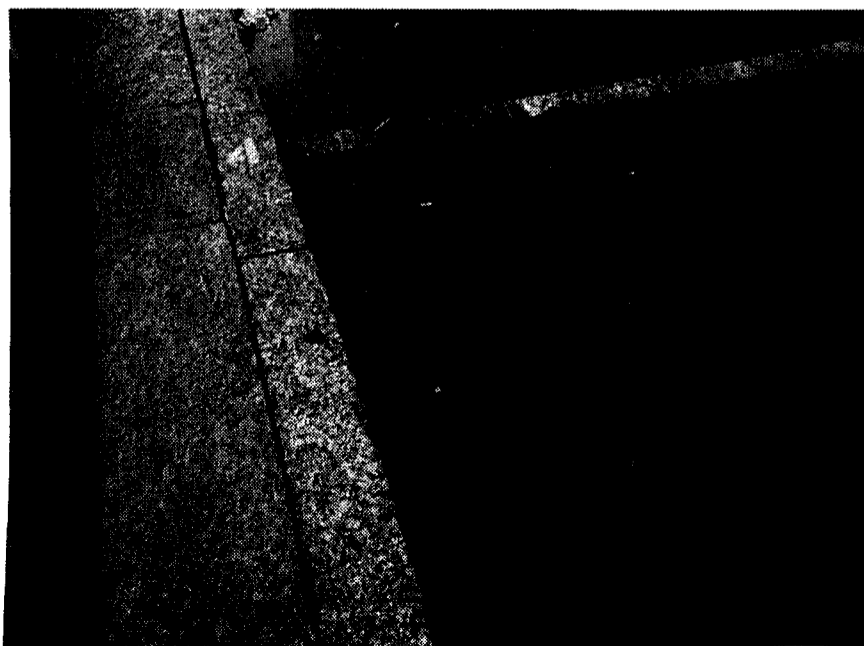
As for battling the wind and rain, you can channel your inner Audrey Hepburn by wrapping a satin scarf around your hair to protect your coif - especially those ends which are susceptible to breakage. (Hair does go into shock in the winter, so keep it protected and refrain from too much manipulation!) Target.com offers a nice affordable

arrangement of scarves from as little as \$6.99 and select sets (scarves, hats, and gloves) priced at \$9.99. Also, a word of caution, as the weather begins to change, refrain from wearing heels (of any sort) in the sleet or snow. Don't be afraid to keep a cute tote with a pair of sneakers in the car and change the minute you get inside the building. Yes, being fierce is first priority, but so is safety and demonstrating a bit of common sense.

To top off your femme look, accessorize, accessorize,

accessorize! Jazz up your wardrobe with a bright necklace, chunky belt, dangling earrings and oversized sunglasses to keep the wind and sun out of your face. Most importantly, be creative and don't be afraid to mix and match trends that appeal to you. In the long run, as long as you're dressed comfortably, that's all that matters! So, there you have it - an immediate recipe for staying cute and bundling in the cold. So go out there, be beautiful and be bold!

## Photo Club contest winners: Week 8



**FIRST PLACE**  
"Reflection" by Sahar Safaee



**RUNNER UP**  
"Pacific Coast Highway" by Tayyaba Bhatti